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the recognition of the need to the realization in action—yet this is the justification of the whole.

In the closing lecture, "The Future of Social Science," it is noted that "the case of *Men versus Men's Problems*, has taken a change of venue from the theological court to the sociological." In ever-increasing degree, social sciences recognize that improvement of human conditions is their goal. We are coming to social self-consciousness.

The statement is powerful in provoking thought. A valuable book for any student irrespective of the particular section of human action in which he is chiefly interested.

CARL KELSEY.

University of Pennsylvania.

Surface, G. T. *The Story of Sugar.* Pp. xiii, 238. Price, \$1.00. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1910.

The Story of Sugar is a popular treatise on the sugar industry. It contains sixteen chapters whose subject matter is briefly summarized in the following paragraph:

Chapters I-III, inclusive, are of an introductory nature. Chapter one describes the occurrence of sugar in nature, as in roots, fruits, stalks, trees, and honey; chapter II presents the important points in the history of the sugar industry from the earliest time to the present, and chapter III discusses various matters connected with sugar as a food. Chapters IV-VI are devoted to the cane-sugar industry, pointing out the controlling economic and geographical factors in production, and describing the present condition of the industry in the United States and other countries. Chapters VII-XI are devoted to beet sugar, and they form the most important part of the book. Again, they discuss the general factors controlling the industry and describe the conditions in the various countries. They point out particularly that during the nineteenth century gradual improvement took place in the tonnage of sugar beets raised per acre of land, in the percentage of sugar content in the beets, and in the completeness with which the sugar was extracted from the beets. Chapters XII-XVI take up miscellaneous matters connected with the sugar industry, including the production and use of syrups, candy, and by-products of sugar; a chapter on the marketing of sugar, with an account of the development of the sugar trust, and a very general chapter on the world's future sugar supply.

The author is an assistant professor of geography at Yale. He gives a simple, non-technical account of an industry concerning which there is a wide and perhaps inexcusable ignorance. His purpose was evidently to compress into a single readable volume as large a body of general information as possible, and he has succeeded very well. For scientific purposes, the work has very little value, and contains nothing new. As a special defect, no references are made to other works on the sugar industry, although several excellent works are in existence. The economist reading the book would like to know more about the influence of invention, labor conditions,

and legislation upon the progress of the industry; also more about the marketing of sugar and the factors controlling its prices. The book is encyclopaedic, and as such, serves a very important function.

JOHN BAUER.

Cornell University.

Underwood, H. G. *The Religions of Eastern Asia*. Pp. ix, 267. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

A long familiarity with one of the lesser Oriental lands (Korea) is no charter to special competency for dealing with so vast and varied phenomena as the welter of far-eastern religions presents. It happens, therefore, that Dr. Underwood's book for the most part is based on secondary sources. Treating of Korea, he furnishes much interesting data especially on local worship and religious functionaries but his interpretive clue throughout is the dogma of a primitive monotheism based on "revelation" from which all heathen faiths have degenerated.

"The earliest worship of which we can find a secular record in the oldest countries was by every indication a monotheism. where with simplicity man worshiped his Creator only. Falling away from this came the deification of kings as the descendants or agents of this God; then came heroes, ancestors in general, powers of nature, resulting in pantheism, polytheism, fetichism; with an endless train of degrading superstitions" (p. 234). It is enough to say that except for this dogma no such interpretation would be suggested by many of the facts.

H. P. DOUGLASS.

New York.

Wicksteed, P. H. *The Common Sense of Political Economy*. Pp. xi, 702. Price, \$4.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

The Common Sense of Political Economy claims to be a "systematic exposition of the Marginal Theory of Economics." The claim is made good in the first book, which is devoted to minute and often exhausting analyses of the operations, psychological, physical and mechanical, which constitute all economic administration from the marketing by the housewife, to the organization of industry and the technique of foreign exchange. In Book II, which is described as "Excursive and Critical," the Marginal Concept is applied diagrammatically, with the result that certain very pertinent and destructive criticism is brought to bear on the so-called laws of diminishing and increasing returns, and on all illustrations of price as determined by the intersection of a rising curve of cost and a declining curve of utility.

In Book III, the Marginal Concept is applied concretely in the analyses of a "miscellaneous set of phenomena in the social and industrial world, both by way of exercise and by way of testing the principles." Some of the subjects chosen are gambling and speculation, the housing problem, unemployment, depression and crises, the immediate and permanent effects of